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District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PHOENIX FELON RECEIVES 10 YEARS FOR GUN POSSESSION DURING A CRIME SPREE

PHOENIX – Robert Paul Hill, 35, of Phoenix, was sentenced here on November 9, 2006, to the statutory maximum of 10 years in prison for Felon in Possession of a Firearm, by U.S. District Judge Earl H. Carroll. Hill pleaded guilty to the charge on September 20, 2004.

During the course of his guilty plea and sentencing, Hill admitted the following facts. On April 29, 2004, at about 11:30 p.m., Hill pointed a handgun at a male occupant of another car while the two were driving in the area of Loop 101 and Indian School Road in Scottsdale, Arizona. The victim called the Scottsdale Police Department which determined that Hill possessed a large black revolver and was driving a stolen Ford Taurus. During a subsequent pursuit, Hill drove the Taurus directly at a Scottsdale Police Officer and nearly caused a collision. Hill was lost during the pursuit and later crashed the Taurus into a residence located on North 86th Street in Scottsdale. Scottsdale police officers set up a perimeter around the house and used canine and helicopters units in order try to find Hill. Hill escaped capture.

On April 30, 2004, at approximately 12:30 p.m., a woman went to check on her daughter's unoccupied house that was listed for sale and located near Hill's recent crash site. Inside the residence, she came across Hill who still had his black revolver. Hill attempted to sexually assault the woman two times but she refused to give in to his demands. During the assault, Hill pointed his gun at the victim and she feared for her life. Hill then ripped the victim's car keys from her hand and fled from the house in her four-door Saturn.

Later on April 30, 2004, at approximately 2:30 p.m., Phoenix police officers located Hill near his parents residence in Phoenix. Hill fled from the Phoenix police officers in the stolen Saturn and struck another vehicle as he fled. During this new pursuit, Hill's driving was so reckless, the police could not keep up with him and lost him again.

Early in the morning on May 1, 2004, Arizona Department of Public Safety officers located Hill in the stolen Saturn at a rest stop south of Phoenix. Hill was asleep in the driver's seat. Hill was arrested and a black Smith & Wesson, .41 magnum caliber, revolver was found at his feet. At the time of his arrest, Hill had prior felony convictions in the Superior Court of Arizona, Maricopa County, for Attempted Armed Robbery, Case Number CR-88-00818, on May 24, 1988; and Armed Robbery, Case Number CR-92-06102, on January 11, 1993.

Hill has been in federal custody since May 1, 2004, and was remanded to the Federal Bureau of Prisons by Judge Carroll after sentencing. Hill faces additional charges in Maricopa County Superior Court as a result of his spree.

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The investigation in this case was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, the Scottsdale Police Department, Phoenix Police Department and Arizona Department of Public Safety. The prosecution was handled by Frederick A. Battista, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

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